

REMARKS***Pending claims***

Through this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 19, 21, 35, and 36 have been amended to more clearly point out and distinctly claim the invention. These amendments do not contain new matter and are fully supported by the specification. For example, the newly added phrase “wherein the central optical zone and the peripheral zone are designed separately and independently from each other and blended together by the transitional non-optical zone to eliminate flexion points or sharp edges or both at junction between the central and peripheral zones” can be found on page 9, the 4th complete paragraph (lines 23-31). After these amendments are entered, forty eight (48) claims (claims 1-48) are pending.

Rejection of Claims under 35 USC §112

Rejection, under 35 USC §112, first paragraph, of Claims 3, 19, 21, 35, and 36 has been overcome by the amendments of these claims as suggested by the examiner. Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of this rejection.

Claim Objection

The objection of Claim 1 has been overcome by the amendment of this claim. Applicants respectfully withdraw this objection.

Rejection of Claims under 35 USC §102

Claims 1-2, 13-14, 16, 18-19, 26-27, 29-32, 35, 41-42, 44-46, and 48 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Bronstein (4,525,043). For the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

Applicant submit that Bronstein does not teach or disclose all of the limitations of the present invention as currently claimed. Bronstein does not disclose or suggest anything about the central optical zone and the peripheral zone being designed separately and independently from each other and blended together by the transitional non-optical zone to eliminate flexion points or sharp edges or both at junction between the central and peripheral zones, and anything about having a substantially constant thickness in the peripheral zone along the horizontal meridian. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that because Bronstein does not disclose all of the

limitations of the invention as currently claimed, the invention is patentable over Bronstein. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection.

Claims 1-2, 13-14, 16, 18-19, 26-27, 29-32, 35, 41-42, 44-46, and 48 were rejected under 35 USC §102(b) as being anticipated by Butterfield (2,544,246). For the following reasons, the Examiner's rejection is respectfully traversed.

Butterfield does not disclose or suggest anything about the central optical zone and the peripheral zone being designed separately and independently from each other and then blended together by the transitional non-optical zone to eliminate flexion points or sharp edges or both at junction between the central and peripheral zones, and anything about having a substantially constant thickness in the peripheral zone along the horizontal meridian. Therefore, Applicants respectfully submit that because Butterfield does not disclose all of the limitations of the invention as currently claimed, the invention is patentable over Butterfield. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §102(b) rejection.

Rejection of Claims under 35 USC §103

Claim 20 was rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable by Bronstein (4,525,043) or Butterfield (2,544,246). As discussed above, neither of the two cited references discloses or suggests all of the limitations of the invention as currently claimed. Applicants' invention is patentable over either of references. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection.

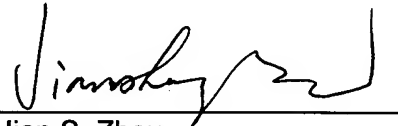
Claims 32, 35, 41-42, 44 and 46-47 were rejected under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable by Butterfield (2,544,246). As discussed above, Butterfield does not disclose or suggests all of the limitations of the invention as currently claimed. Applicants' invention is patentable over Butterfield. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection.

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing and in conclusion, Applicants submit that the pending claims are now in conditions for allowance. Applicants request reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections set-forth in the Office Action.

Should the Examiner believe that a discussion with Applicants' representative would further the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is respectfully invited to contact the undersigned. Please address all correspondence to Robert Gorman, CIBA Vision, Patent Department, 11460 Johns Creek Parkway, Duluth, GA 30097. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any other fees which may be required under 37 C.F.R. §§1.16 and 1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-2965.

Respectfully submitted,



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